

**Charging of higher rates for Naphtha Fuel Oil and LSHS by Oil Companies**

\*316. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI:

SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the oil companies have been charging the fertilizer units for Naphtha Fuel Oil and LSHS at rates higher than the import parity prices; and

(b) if so, the additional subsidy outgo due to such excess charge during the years 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) and (b) As part of the phased programme of dismantling the administered pricing mechanism, some petroleum products including naphtha and LSHS have been decontrolled effective 1.4.1998. These products are sold by the refineries at market driven prices. Public Sector Oil Companies charge the fertilizers units for naphtha, fuel oil and LSHS supplied to them at prices that are worked out on the principle of import parity.

**Discontinuance of Karnatic Classical Music Programmes**

\*317. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Karnatic Classical Music programmes on Fridays in the 'South Zone Hook-up concert' have been discontinued;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government will consider revival of the programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER